News Release

Department of Workforce Development and Ivy Tech
to again collaborate on robotics workshops for teachers

INDIANAPOLIS (May 16, 2007) -- The Indiana Department of Workforce Development and Ivy Tech Community College are again collaborating on a series of workshops to help teachers better use robotics as a teaching tool in the classroom.

The three day workshops, to be held on twelve Ivy Tech campuses, are aimed at middle and high school teachers and are designed to introduce a robotics curriculum with an emphasis on science, mathematics and problem-solving.

"Robotics programs help develop science, engineering, mathematics, and team-building skills among our students – all disciplines vital for success in the workplace of the 21st century," said Andrew Penca, commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "As such, it is important to build these programs in our middle and high schools. These workshops help develop a cadre of instructors who will become experts in their communities on how to better use robotics as teaching tools."

The workshops will be held at Ivy Tech Community College in the following locations:

June 11-13	Evansville
June 18-20	Bloomington
June 25-27	Terre Haute
July 9-11	Indianapolis and Anderson
July 16-18	Kokomo and Lafayette
July 23-25	Richmond and Sellersburg
July 30-August 1	South Bend and Valparaiso
August 6-8	Fort Wayne

This is the second year of the teacher training workshops. Last year, 112 teachers from 102 middle and high schools completed the workshops at eight Ivy Tech campuses. This year's program has been expanded to twelve campuses, and officials hope that enrollment will reach 300 teachers.

For more information, teachers are asked to contact Dan Ward at dward@ivytech.edu or 800-459-0561 x385.

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